of basic service tier of free-to-air channels, included representatives of one consumer group from each metro, nominated by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

Centre of IFFI

808. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to make Goa as permanent Centre of the International Film Festivals in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Goa has got necessary infrastructure to be a permanent place for holding mega event of the International Film Festivals; and

(d) the facilities proposed to be provided there by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The need for a permanent venue of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) arises, *inter alia*, from the need to develop quality infrastructure, reduce infructuous costs of refurbishing a new festival venue each year and have a venue that evokes a festive spirit. In consultation with the representatives of the film industry, Goa is seen as a place that is already on the international tourist map and has a festive ambience. Accordingly, it has emerged as the unanimous choice for a permanent venue for IFFI and has invited favourable comments from various quarters.

(c) and (d) Goa has some of the infrastructure like accommodation, transport, communication etc. for organizing major events. Private investment is envisaged for creating international standard screening and related facilities.

Ban on telecast of Fashion TV

†809. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Fashion T.V. and Trend T.V. are being telecast on T.V. channels without any check;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government are taking any action to put a ban on such channels or taking any action against such channels; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) All satellite TV channels transmitted/retransmitted through the cable networks are required to adhere to the provisions of Programme Code, prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. The Central Government has constituted an inter-ministerial committee to look into the violations of the Programme Code. Cognizance of any such violations is taken *suo-moto* or on receipt of complaints by the aforesaid Committee. Cognizance of such violations can also be taken by "Authorised Officers", prescribed under the said Act.

CAS for consumers

†810. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAS would be beneficial for the consumers;

(b) whether the CAS would be more cheaper in comparison to the cable system;

(c) whether it would not be possible to watch programmes of various channels without the Set Top Boxes; and

(d) whether the people who cannot afford Set Top Boxes would be deprived of watching various channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) CAS would be beneficial for consumers for the following reasons:-

(i) Government has specified Rs. 72/- (Plus taxes) as the maximum price of basic service tier, consisting of not less than 30 free-to-air channels of different genres of entertainment, news, sports, children's programmes and music. Additional free-to-air channels

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.